

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 220950

EXDIS FOR AMB. CARTER FROM USREP HRC MEZVINSKY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM

SUBJECT: WORKING GROUP ON COMMUNICATIONS - UN
SUBCOMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND
PROTECTION OF MINORITIES

REF: GENEVA 12957

1. I AM PLEASED THAT YOU WERE SELECTED AS THE VICE
CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMISSION.

2. I WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING HOW THE SPECIFIC CASE IN
MEMPHIS AND SHELBY COUNTY FALLS WITHIN THE 1503 PROCEDURES
SHOWING "A CONSISTENT PATTERN OF GROSS AND RELIABLY
ATTESTED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS." I HAVE READ THE
COMPLAINT AND I AM CONCERNED HOW THIS ONE CASE, IN ONE
PARTICULAR AREA OF THE COUNTRY, COULD RESULT IN THE
UNITED STATES BEING CITED FOR THE EXISTENCE OF A
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CONSISTENT PATTERN OF GROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS.
I WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE HAVING THE ARGUMENTS MADE CONCERN-
ING THIS CASE, AND ANY FURTHER DOCUMENTATION YOU MAY HAVE.

3. I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING HOW MANY COMPLAINTS
WERE FILED AGAINST THE USSR AND EQUATORIAL GUINEA AND
WHAT ACTION, IF ANY, WAS TAKEN ON THOSE COMPLAINTS. IT IS

MY UNDERSTANDING THAT MANY MORE COMPLAINTS WERE DELIVERED
TO THE HRC ON THE SOVIET UNION. IS THIS ACCURATE?

4. SUCH ACTION BY THE SUBCOMMISSION WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT
TO EXPLAIN, PARTICULARLY IN THE ABSENCE OF SIMILAR ACTION
ON CASES SUCH AS THE USSR. HOW CRUCIAL IN THE DECISION-
MAKING WAS THE ABSENCE OF A USG RESPONSE TO THIS
ALLEGATION? WERE SUCH RESPONSES AVAILABLE IN THE CASES
OF THE USSR AND EQUATORIAL GUINEA?

5. IT IS MY HOPE THAT, BY CITING CAMBODIA UNDER THE
1503 PROCEDURES, THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE PUBLIC DISCUSSION
OF CAMBODIA BEFORE THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SINCE
THE RESOLUTION WAS PASSED IN PUBLIC SESSION. CHRISTOPHER

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